



# HI-Q

ON THE WEB .... [WWW.LARCLUB.NET](http://WWW.LARCLUB.NET)



**VE3FW-LARC CALL SIGN HONOURS THE MEMORY OF THE  
FOUNDING PRESIDENT P.J. "PAT" O'SHEA**

Volume 73

NOVEMBER 2007

Issue 9

## NEW HI-Q EDITOR!

*ALAS, LEO HAS TO LEAVE HIS POST AS EDITOR OF HI-Q. I WAS GOING TO FEEL SORRY FOR HIM UNTIL I LEARNED OF ALL THE TRAVELLING HE HAS IN STORE FOR HIM. SAFE JOURNEYS LEO AND CAROL AND I WILL DO MY BEST TO FILL THE RATHER LARGE SHOES YOU LEFT BEHIND. A LARGE LARC THANKYOU FOR ALL THE GREAT EDITIONS OF HI-Q YOU PUBLISHED. I'VE DONE THIS BEFORE, AND PIONEERED THE MOVE FROM STENCILS AND INK TO COMPUTERS AND XEROX. HOPEFULLY I HAVE LEARNED A FEW THINGS SINCE THOSE DAYS AND CAN AT LEAST COME CLOSE TO THE WONDERFUL PRODUCT THAT LEO PRODUCED.*

**ED VE3SNW**

**NEXT MEETING**  
**THURSDAY NOVEMBER 8TH**  
at the McIntyre Building,  
Confederation College  
Room 191 at 7:30 pm

## How I got my start in Amateur Radio...



## PACKET LINK RESTORED

The packet radio link from Laurium on 145.090 MHz between Laurium and the weather bureau in Negaunee has been restored as of early Monday (1 am) October 30, 2007. This will also give communications between here and the station in Ishpeming, owned by N8MLI.

73,  
George, W8FWG

## The Prez Sez:



Well welcome to another month and a new Hi Q. I have to thank Leo one last time for bringing Hi-Q to a new level and a welcome Ed as the new editor. If you have anything that is relevant to amateur radio please consider sending it in for publication. Remember Ed is the editor not the author of each article.

Now that the weather is getting cooler I hope you can migrate back into the shack and spend some time on the air. I am already doing a little more operating and thinking of trying my hand at some of the new digital modes available to us. Some will actually copy signals into the noise, this was unheard of just a few years ago.

In response to the little survey done at the last meeting I have managed to get some speakers requested by the members, so stay tuned here and look for some interesting guest speakers in the future months.

We are also contemplating having a stand alone night on getting more folks operational on APRS. Don't have the final details yet but stay tuned.

A couple of amateurs have indicated an interest in learning CW and then possible building a keyer. There are several good designs using a PIC uController and this may become a bit of a club project. Interested? Let me know.

This month we will set up a demo on soldering with lead free solder. As you may know lead can be a dangerous substance and is banned in many electronic devices. We are using lead free solder here at the College and we can set up some soldering stations at the next meeting and see how it compares to older leaded solder.

That's it for this month. Hope to see you at the meeting on November 8 at 7:30.

73  
Bill VE3XT

## **LARC SENATE**

Keith Fiske VE3JQ  
Pat Doherty VE3PD  
Dave Kimpton VE3AVS  
Laurie Bridgett VE3BCD  
Terry Stewardson VA3LU  
Ed Baumann VE3SNW

## **LARC EXECUTIVE**

### **President**

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### **Vice-President**

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### **LARC Emergency Coordinator**

VA3OJ Randy Gottfred 474-0910

### **ARES District Emergency**

#### **Coordinator**

VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789

#### **Assistant**

VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

### **CANWARN**

VA3JMS John 767-3631

VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

### **Public Service Events**

VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

VA3JMS John 767-3631

### **Amateur Radio**

#### **Accredited Examiner**

VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789

flesnick@tbaytel.net

## **Lakehead Amateur Radio Club**

### **Treasurers Report**

**Opening Balance - Oct. 3th. 2007 \$5,408.80**

#### **Income**

Interest	\$0.04
50/50 Draw	\$9.50
Memberships	\$395.00
Donations	\$30.00

**Total Income** \$434.54

#### **Expenses**

Thunder Bay Telephone	\$48.03
Bank Service Fee	\$1.00
Ares - Photocopies	\$13.68

**Total Expenses** **\$62.71**

**Closing Balance - Nov. 3rd, 2007 \$5,780.63**



**Joe Coghlan - VE3TBX Treasurer**

## **LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS**

**VE3YQT(Mount Baldy)147.060 (-600) Phone Patch**

**VE3TBR (St. Joseph's) 145.490 (-600) (100.0 Hz)**

**442.075 (+5 MHz)**

**144.390 APRS**

**VE3BGA (Hillcrest H.S.) 145.450 (-600) (IRLP Node VA3LU 123.0 Hz)**

**442.825 (+5 MHz) (100.0 Hz)**

**VE3UPP Upsala 145.470 (-600)**

## GETTING STARTED - TECH HINTS FOR THE REST OF US

This is the first of (hopefully) a regular column for the average ham, featuring some hints and tips to get the most out of hobby. Note that these are mostly my opinions, and your ideas are sincerely welcome.

Possibly the most asked question by newly minted hams is "What radio should I buy first?". Of course this question is a lot more complex than it first appears. The answer depends mostly on the intentions of the operator, which spawns a host of new questions. Firstly, what activity do you see yourself engaged in the most? Here are some likely scenarios.

Ham operator "Bob" just got his licence and after reading some CQ and QST magazines has decided he would like to be able to chat with other local hams on his way to and from work, and maybe help out with some local events. In Bob's case, he would be looking at operating in the VHF and UHF bands with either a mobile radio installed in the vehicle, or a handheld radio. While "walkie-talkies" are as limited power (usually 5 to 7 watts repeater from some areas, the need for a limited antenna. Of course you can't beat mostly from his vehicle. In his case, a mobile



very popular, they suffer from some problems such maximum) which means being unable to reach the batteries which can be a pain in the backside, and their portability, but Bob will probably be operating radio in his vehicle is probably his best bet. The antenna mounted on the car means a much more reliable signal, and constant power for the rig will not be an issue. If money is an issue, a single band mobile is very economical, and is very feature rich, including provisions for digital voice and data ( including the popular APRS). If you are willing to kick it up a notch, a dual band mobile (vhf + uhf) is even better, especially with crossband repeat.

Why crossband repeat? Because Bob is going to buy a dual band handheld someday, (all hams do, eventually) and the crossband repeat will allow him to use his car mobile radio as a repeater. This will be especially handy for helping at public service events. Don't forget that with a power supply and external antenna (that he built himself, of course), the mobile can be brought into the shack and used as a base station. How is Bob going to pick the mobile that's best for him? Besides reading all the ads and literature in the magazines and on the web, Bob is going to go to club meetings and get together and ask the other operators what they like and dislike about their radios. And by seeing other operators installations, Bob is going to get some great ideas on how he is going to mount the radio in his vehicle too.

Bob's buddy, Joe just left VE3FAL's and has passed the exam. He is elated, of course, and he knows exactly what he wants. Being the very competitive sort, he wants to be a contester. This won't be as simple as buying a radio and blasting the ether with RF. To do well, Joe is going to have to "go back to school" and learn about optimizing antennas and his other equipment to squeeze out every bit of performance. The key here again is to not try and re-invent the wheel but again take advantage of club meetings and such and seek out other contesters and learn from the "Big Guns". .....to be continued next month

## EMCOMM PARTY

**DON'T FORGET....RENEW YOUR  
MEMBERSHIP IN LARC !**

This month will see a number of amateur radio societies unite to participate in the first global simulated emergency test. While these emergency communications training exercises have occurred in various countries, and been organized in the International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 in the past, this preparedness for emergencies is now going world-wide. The IARU Region 1 has invited Regions 2 and 3 to join it in the Third Emergency Communications, or EmCom Party on the 11th of November.

## Silent Key - Dan Driscoll VE3OTW

DRISCOLL, Daniel Joseph VE3OTW  
2007-10-26

Passed away October 25, 2007 in his 86th year. Born and educated in Edmonton, he is survived by his loving wife of 63 years, Ruby (nee Lawson), son James (wife Bernadine Dodge), daughter Maureen (husband James Keillor), son Michael (wife Doris), grandson Daniel Driscoll, granddaughters Lisa (Keillor) Fairweather and Megan (Keillor) Butler, and other nieces and nephews. Predeceased by his parents, sister Dorothy (Boe), brother George and grandson Brendan. Dan served in the RCAF in the closing years of the war and re-enlisted for a full career, retiring in 1968 as a Flight Lieutenant, Communications Officer. He taught at Confederation College in Thunder Bay for eighteen years before following a lifelong passion for drawing, painting and crafting articles of beauty. A resident of Guelph since 1998, Dan was a member of the Guelph Creative Arts Association. An enduring interest in languages led to many local conversations in French, Chinese, Korean and salutations in numerous others. Dan and Ruby are members of Dublin Street United Church. Service and reception at WALL-CUSTANCE FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL, 206 Norfolk St., Guelph on Tuesday, October 30 at 2:00 PM. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Association Canada, 7100 Woodbine Ave., #311, Markham, L3R 5J2 or the Heart & Stroke Foundation, 204-21 Surrey St. W., Guelph N1H 3R3.

*Source: Chronicle Journal*

Many of us knew Dan as an excellent instructor in the electronics labs at Confederation College, and will be remembered fondly for his great sense of humour.

## Hey Joe....Here are some contests!

IPARC Contest, CW 0600Z-1000Z, Nov 3 and  
1400Z-1800Z, Nov 3  
Ukrainian DX Contest 1200Z, Nov 3 to 1200Z, Nov 4  
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW 2100Z, Nov 3 to 0300Z,  
Nov 5  
NA Collegiate ARC Championship, CW 2100Z, Nov 3 to 0300Z,  
Nov 5  
IPARC Contest, SSB 0600Z-1000Z, Nov 4 and  
1400Z-1800Z, Nov 4  
High Speed Club CW Contest 0900Z-1100Z, Nov 4 and  
1500Z-1700Z, Nov 4  
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest 1100Z-1700Z, Nov 4  
ARS Spartan Sprint 0200Z-0400Z, Nov 6  
WAE DX Contest, RTTY 0000Z, Nov 10 to 2359Z, Nov 11  
JIDX Phone Contest 0700Z, Nov 10 to 1300Z, Nov 11  
OK/OM DX Contest, CW 1200Z, Nov 10 to 1200Z, Nov 11  
Kentucky QSO Party 1400Z, Nov 10 to 0600Z, Nov 11  
CQ-WE Contest 1900Z, Nov 10 to 0500Z, Nov 12  
SKCC Sprint 0100Z-0300Z, Nov 14  
YO International PSK31 Contest 1600Z-2200Z, Nov 16  
SARL Field Day Contest 1000Z, Nov 17 to 1000Z, Nov 18  
LZ DX Contest 1200Z, Nov 17 to 1200Z, Nov 18  
Feld Hell Sprint 1500Z-1700Z, Nov 17  
All Austrian 160-Meter Contest 1600Z, Nov 17 to 0700Z,  
Nov 18  
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB 2100Z, Nov 17 to 0300Z,  
Nov 19  
RSGB 2nd 1.8 MHz Contest, CW 2100Z, Nov 17 to 0100Z,  
Nov 18  
NA Collegiate ARC Championship, SSB 2100Z, Nov  
17 to 0300Z, Nov 19  
EU PSK63 QSO Party 0000Z-2400Z, Nov 18  
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest 0200Z-0400Z, Nov 19  
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint 0130Z-0330Z, Nov 22  
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW 0000Z, Nov 24 to 2400Z,  
Nov 25  
ARRL EME Contest 0000Z, Nov 24 to 2359Z, Nov 25  
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon 0000Z-2400Z, Nov 25  
ARCI Topband Sprint 0000Z-0600Z, Nov 29  
ARRL 160-Meter Contest 2200Z, Nov 30 to 1600Z, Dec 2

# November 2007

## Club Calendar

<i><b>SUNDAY</b></i>	<i><b>MONDAY</b></i>	<i><b>TUESDAY</b></i>	<i><b>WEDNESDAY</b></i>	<i><b>THURSDAY</b></i>	<i><b>FRIDAY</b></i>	<i><b>SATURDAY</b></i>
				1	2	3 ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW starts
4	5	6	7	8  <b>LARC CLUB MEETING</b>	9	10
11 EMCOMM PARTY	12	13	14	15	16	17 ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB starts RSGB 2nd 1.8 MHz Contest, CW starts
18	19 Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	20	21	22	23	24 CQ World Wide DX CW ARRL EME Contest
25 CQ World Wide DX CW	26	27	28	29	30 ARRL 160 Meter start & runs to Dec. 2nd	Christmas coming soon ...
Not too soon to be thinking about Field Day						

### **NOTES**

Thursdays -  
Boston Pizza

Send in your events